BEFORE

## THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

## SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 95-715-G - ORDER NO. 95-1490 AUGUST 30, 1995

IN RE: Piedmont Natural Gas Company ) ORDER
Application for an adjust- ) HOLDING MATTER
ment of its rates and charges ) IN ABEYANCE
and for approval of Revised )
Depreciation Rates )

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the August 18, 1995

Petition For Night Hearing in this Docket filed by the Consumer Advocate for the State of South Carolina (the Consumer Advocate). Among other matters, the Consumer Advocate notes that many of the customers are unable to attend hearings in Columbia during the work day, but that they may desire to offer their opinions on a rate request to the Commission. The Consumer Advocate therefore requests that the Commission set a night hearing.

The August 23, 1995 Response to the Petition for Night Hearing filed by Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc., (Piedmont), complains of the lack of specificity of complaints noted by the Consumer Advocate and a lack of preparation time between now and the time of the actual merits hearing. Piedmont objects to the granting of the night hearings.

The Commission has considered this matter and believes that the question of whether or not to hold night hearings should be held in abeyance until the hearing on the merits on this matter, at which time the Commission may make a decision on whether or not to hold night hearings in this case. The Commission notes a lack of complaints received by its Consumer Services Department in this case.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Rudoys Mitchell

ATTEST:

Executive Director

(SEAL)